A Proclamacion set furth by the kynges maiestie, wyth the assent and consent of hys moost dere vncle Edward duke of Somerset, Gouernor of hys royall persone, and of hys realmes, dominions and subiectes protector, and others of his highnes preuy counsail, concernyng the inhibicion of all preachers, aswell such as hath ben licenced, as also all other, the .xxiii. day of Septembre in the second yere of his Maiesties moste gracious reigne.

23 Sept 1548

WHeras of late by reason of certain controuersious and sedicious preachers, the kynges Maiestie moued of tendre zeale and loue, whiche he hath to the quiet of his subiectes, by the aduise of the Lorde Protector and other his highnes counsaill, hath made Proclamacion, inhibited and commaunded, that no maner of persone, except suche as was licensed by his highnes, the lorde Protector, or by the Archebishop of Cantorbury, should take vpon hym to preache in any open audience, vpō paine in the saied proclamacion conteyned: And that vpon hope and esperaunce that those being chosen and electe men should preache and setfurthe only to the people suche thinges as should be to gods honor and the benefite of the kynges maiesties subiectes: Yet neuertheles his highnes is aduertised that certeigne of the said preachers so licensed, not regardyng suche good admonicions, as hath bene by the saied Lorde Protector and the rest of the counsayll on his maiesties behalfe by letters or otherwise geuē vnto them, hath abused the saied aucthoritie of preachyng, and behaued them selfe irreuerently and without good ordre in the said preachynges, contrary to suche good Instructions and aduertisementes as was geuen vnto theim: wherby muche contencion and disordre might rise & ensue in this his Maiesties Realme: Wherfore hys hyghnes, myndyng to see very shortly one vniforme ordre throughout this his Realme, & to put an ende of al controuersies in Religiō so far as God shall geue grace: for whiche cause at this tyme certayne byshoppes & notable lerned men by his highnes cōmaundement are cōgregat: hath by the aduise aforesayd thought good: Although certayne & many of the said prechers so before licēsed haue behaued them self veri discreteli & wisely & to the honor of God & his highnes contentacion: yet at this present & vntil suche tyme, that thesaid ordre shalbe setfurth generally through out this his Maiesties realme, to inhibite, & by these presentz doth inhibit, generally, aswell thesaied preachers so before licensed as all maner of persones whosoeuer they bee, to preache in open audience in the pulpit or otherwise by any sought coloure or fraude to the disobeiyng of this commaundement: to the intent that the whole clergie in this meane space might apply theim self to prayer to almightie God for the better acheuyng of thesame most godly entent and purpose: Not doubtyng but that also all his louyng subiectes in the meane tyme will occupie them selfe to Gods honor, with dew prayer in the churche, and pacient hearyng of the Godly Homelies heretofore setfurth by hys highnes Iniunccions vnto them, and so endeuour theim selfe that they maye bee then moste ready with thankfull obediēce to receiue a most quiet, godly, and vniforme ordre to be had throughout all his saied Realmes and dominions. And therfore hath willed all hys louyng officers and ministers aswell iustices of peace as Maiors, Shiryfes, baylifes, Constables or any other his officers, of what estate degre, or condicion soeuer thei be, to be attendaunt vpon this proclamacion and commaundement, and to see the infringers or breakers thereof to bee imprisoned, and hys highnes, or the Lorde Protectors grace or his Maiesties Counsayl to be certefied therof immediatly: as thei tendre his Maiesties pleasure and wyll answere to the contrary at their perill.

God saue the Kyng.

Excusum Londini, in ædibus Richardi Graftoni Regij Impressoris.

Cum priuilegio ad imprimendum solum.